WHEREAS, The strength of our nation, and of all its States, flows from the promise of individual equality and freedom of choice; and,

WHEREAS, The eighth anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, during the month of April, is an occasion for all Americans--individually and collectively--to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom of choice and to participate in efforts to eliminate vestiges of housing discrimination wherever they exist. This law guarantees for each citizen that critical, personal element of freedom of choice--selection of the home; and,

WHEREAS, Fair Housing is the policy of South Dakota. Implementation of that policy requires the positive commitment, involvement and support of each and every one of our citizens; and,

WHEREAS, The Departments and Agencies of South Dakota are to provide leadership in the effort to make fair housing not just an idea but an ideal for all of our citizens. I urge, further, that every resident of South Dakota support and endorse the practice and policy of Fair Housing in their personal lives as well as their workaday duties. The promise must become the reality for all; and,

WHEREAS, Barriers that diminish the rights and limit the options of any citizen will ultimately diminish the rights and limit the options of all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD F. KNEIP, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April, 1976, as

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

in South Dakota, and ask the people of this State to join in reaffirming the obligation and commitment to Fair Housing opportunities for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this 30th day of April, in the Year of our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-six.

RICHARD F. KNEIP, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

LORNA B. HERSETH, SECRETARY OF STATE